Canis
-THE SPEAKER-

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WHAT'S THAT?
CLATTER
HAHA! YOU'RE HOLDING ONTO TOO MANY CARDS!
IT'S HAL'S TURN NEXT!
IT'D BE GREAT IF IT COULD CONNECT ...
HMM ...
Wow ...
YOU CAN DO THINGS LIKE THAT, SAM?
A RADIO RECEIVER
I GOT IT FROM COOPER BUT IT'S BROKEN. I'M TRYING TO FIX IT NOW.
Wah!
...NIGHT... THE NIGHT OF THE PRESIDENT'S ...DRESS. THE ...OPLE OF THE ...TION...
OH?
...NO... THE POWER ...
GEH?!
HAL, YOU DON'T MEAN?!
YOU'RE LAUGHING FOR NOW...
THE WAGE GAP CONTINUES TO GROW
THE DECREASE IN WAGES IS EXCEEDING THE HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
You did it!
...H THE ...RRENT ...CESSI... ...ON!
IT CONNECTED!

What
lies hidden
before them,
is it heaven
or hell?

CANIS
THE SPEAKER

Chapter.2

ZAKK

「CANIS -Dear Mr.Rain-」「CANIS -Dear Hatter-」#1, #2 on sale!

LAST TIME

THE THREE BOYS, HAROLD, SAMUEL, AND NOBU, SHARE A ROOM IN THE ORPHANAGE. THEIR WISH IS TO ALWAYS REMAIN TOGETHER ONE DAY. AFTER THE GOODBYE PARTY FOR THEIR FRIENDS GOING TO "A NEW HOME", THEY REALIZED THE GIRL, ARIA, SHARING THE SAME ROOM WAS GONE. THE SISTER SAID SHE ALSO WENT TO "A NEW HOME", BUT...

I SEE!
I UNDERSTAND IT NOW.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SO WHAT YOU MEAN IS...
THIS IS THE CORRECT ANSWER.
I RECALL THERE WAS A DETAILED EXPLANATION IN THIS BOOK.
WAIT JUST A MOMENT.
WELL NOW... YOU ASK DIFFICULT QUESTIONS.
I WANT TO SEPARATE THESE CULTURES INTO CIVILIZED AND UNCIVILIZED PRACTICES. MAY I SEE A FRAME OF REFERENCE?
I HAVE YOU TO THANK FOR THAT, SAMUEL
I'M GLAD TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN NEW KNOWLEDGE.
I SWEAR I'M THE ONE WHO'S LEARNING THINGS FROM YOU.

WELL, YOU SEE...
HAROLD REFUSES TO COME DOWN FROM THE TREE!
MARY! WE HAVE A PRO-BLEM!
WHAT IS IT? THAT'S QUITE THE RACKET.
HE REFUSES TO COME DOWN?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
AHH ...
HAL DOES LOVE CLIMBING TREES AFTER ALL.
IS THAT SO?
HOW COULD HE DO SOME-THING SO DANGER OUS!
IT SEEMS THIS IS NORMAL FOR HIM. HE SHOULD BE FINE.
IT IS NOT FINE!
HE HAS ALREADY CLIMBED 10 FEET!
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!

I'LL BE THERE AT ONCE!
THANK YOU!
IT'S FINE TO HAVE TRUST IN YOUR FRIEND, BUT SOMETIMES YOU MUST WORRY FOR THEM
DON'T SAY SOMETHING SO FOOLISH
Wow, amazing! It's a new record!
FOR GOODNESS SAKE
SAMUEL, UNTIL I RETURN, TAKE YOUR TIME AND READ THAT BOOK
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
YES...
step
step
step
step
step
FLOOP

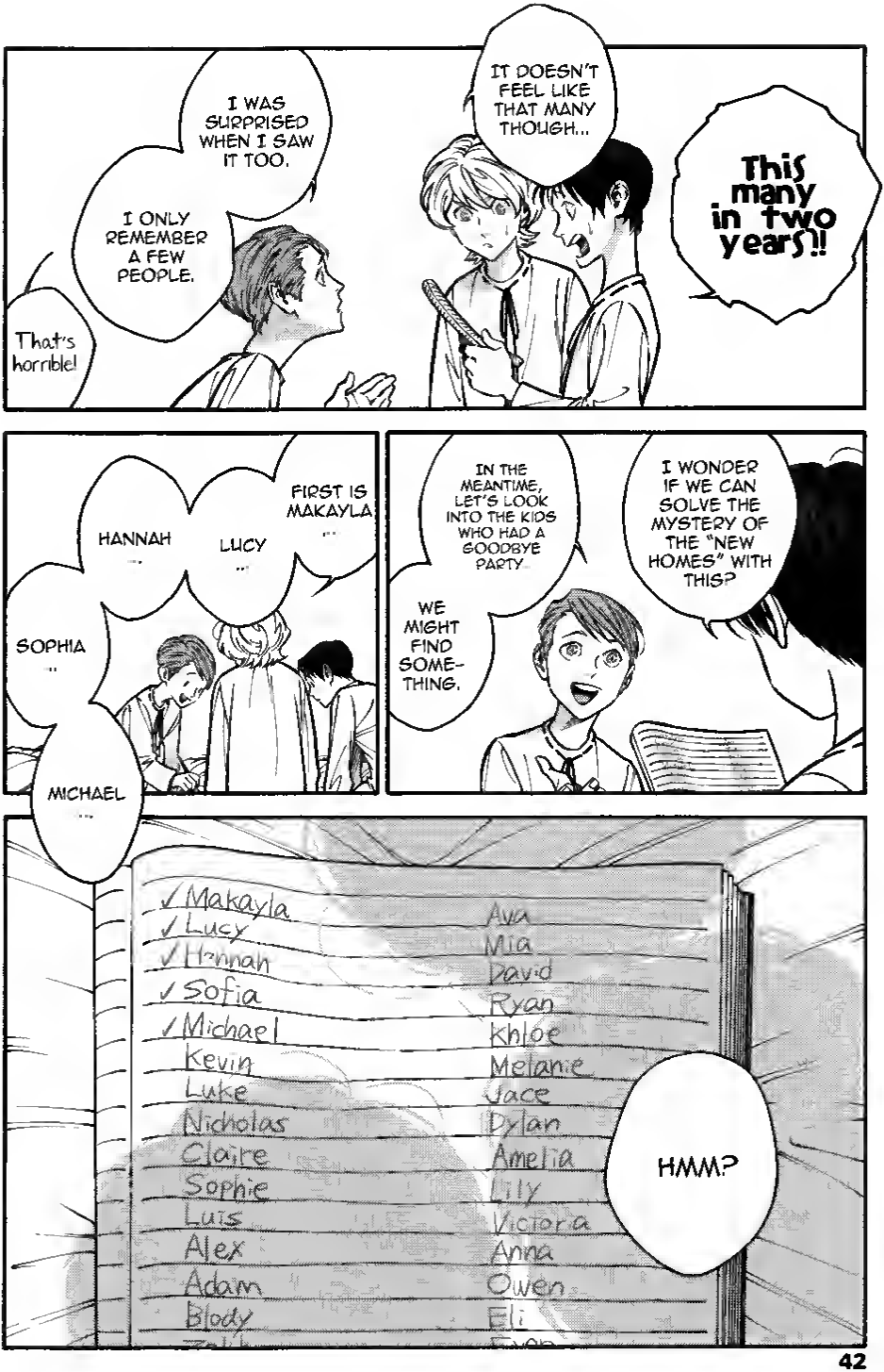
FOUND IT!
NOW WHERE ...
WHERE WOULD IT BE ..?

HAROLD.
THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU MADE IT DOWN SAFELY...

BUT IF YOUR FOOT HAD SLIPPED...
WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAVE HAPPENED?
I.. WOULDN'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE
THAT KIND OF FOOLISH CONFIDENCE LEADS TO INJURIES.
WHAT IF THE OTHER CHILDREN DECIDED TO FOLLOW YOUR LEAD AND IT LED TO A MAJOR ACCIDENT?
IT WOULD BE YOUR FAULT.
Step forward
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THAT NOW...
Yah!
Hey!
My fault?
Jim and Scott are hiding too!

I'LL DEAL WITH THOSE TWO LATER.
DON'T EVER DO ANYTHING DANGEROUS AGAIN.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
YE...
YES...
SQUEEZE
TODAY, SISTER...
WAS SCARIER THAN USUAL
YEAH...

ISN'T THAT A GOOD THING!
BECAUSE OF THIS INCIDENT, TREE CLIMBING HAS BECOME FORBIDDEN.
NOW WE CAN PREVENT ANY FALL RELATED ACCIDENTS
SHE WAS THAT ANGRY?
THAT'S UNUSUAL ...
I WAS ABLE TO GET THIS.
AND ALSO ...
Ava
Mia
David
Ryan
Khloe
Melanie
Jace
Dylan
Amelia
Lily
Victor
Ana
Claire
Sophie
Luis
I WAS ABLE TO GET INFORMATION FROM THE LAST 2 YEARS THANKS TO HAL GETTING SCOLDED FOR A LONG TIME.
It was really scary, you know...
THOUGH IT DOESN'T SHOW EVERY-ONE.
YUP! THE LIST OF KIDS WHO WENT TO "A NEW HOME"!
OHH! YOU FOUND IT?!

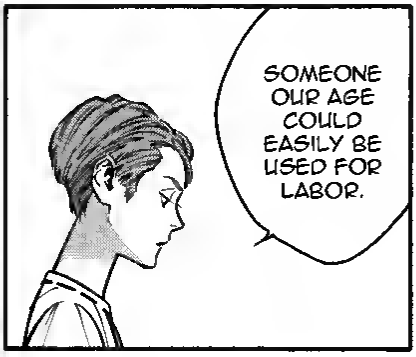

That's horrible!
I ONLY REMEMBER A FEW PEOPLE.
I WAS SURPRISED WHEN I SAW IT TOO.
This many in two years?!
IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE THAT MANY THOUGH...
FIRST IS MAKAYLA ...
LUCY ...
HANNAH ...
SOPHIA ...
MICHAEL ...
I WONDER IF WE CAN SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE "NEW HOMES" WITH THIS?
IN THE MEANTIME, LET'S LOOK INTO THE KIDS WHO HAD A GOODBYE PARTY.
WE MIGHT FIND SOME-THING.
✓Makayla
✓Lucy
✓Hannah
✓Sofia
✓Michael
Kevin
Luke
Nicholas
Claire
Sophie
Luis
Alex
Adam
Blody
Ava
Mia
David
Ryan
Khloe
Melanie
Jace
Dylan
Amelia
Lily
Victoria
Anna
Owen
Eli
HMM?

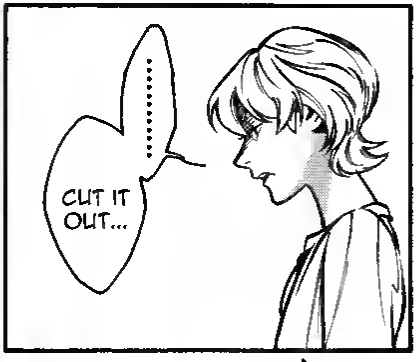
ARIA'S NAME ISN'T THERE?
NEITHER ARE ISABELLA'S AND JOHN'S.
WHY ARE THERE CHECK MARKS?
IF THERE WAS... THEN...
THAT'D MEAN...
That shouldn't be true!
ISN'T IT A LIST OF KIDS WHO HAD A GOODBYE PARTY.
IS THIS REALLY THE LIST OF KIDS WHO WENT TO "A NEW HOME"?
THERE SHOULDN'T BE A NEED FOR A LIST OF GOODBYE PARTIES IN THE FIRST PLACE!

HEY SAM.
YOU SAID THERE MIGHT BE TWO TYPES OF "NEW HOMES" RIGHT?
WHAT ...
DID YOU MEAN BY THAT?
I MEANT ...
THERE ARE GOOD HOMES ...
AND BAD ONES ...

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, HAL.
"IT'D BE GREAT IF THEY WERE RICH."
ALL THE "NEW FAMILIES" WE'VE SEEN UP TILL NOW...
AND LOOKED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH.
WORE EXPENSIVE CLOTHES...
BUT THE WORLD ISN'T MADE OF ONLY THOSE TYPES OF PEOPLE
EVEN I UNDERSTAND THAT!
BUT...
IT'S JUST LIKE WHAT YOU SAID, SAM!
SOMEONE WITHOUT MONEY COULDN'T RAISE A KID...
AND WHAT IF THERE ISN'T THE GOAL TO RAISE THEM?

THE SUSPICIOUS FAMILIES AREN'T TALKED ABOUT.

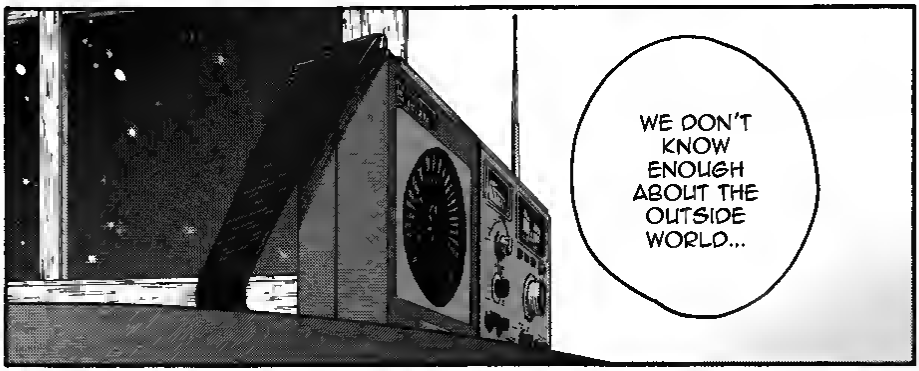

SOMEONE OUR AGE COULD EASILY BE USED FOR LABOR.


.....
CUT IT OUT...

THERE'S NO OTHER REASON TO SPLIT THEM UP!
AND WEREN'T YOU TWO THINKING THE SAME THING?!!

YOU WERE THE ONE TO ASK, HAL!
STOP IT! HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH THINGS?!
WAH ...!

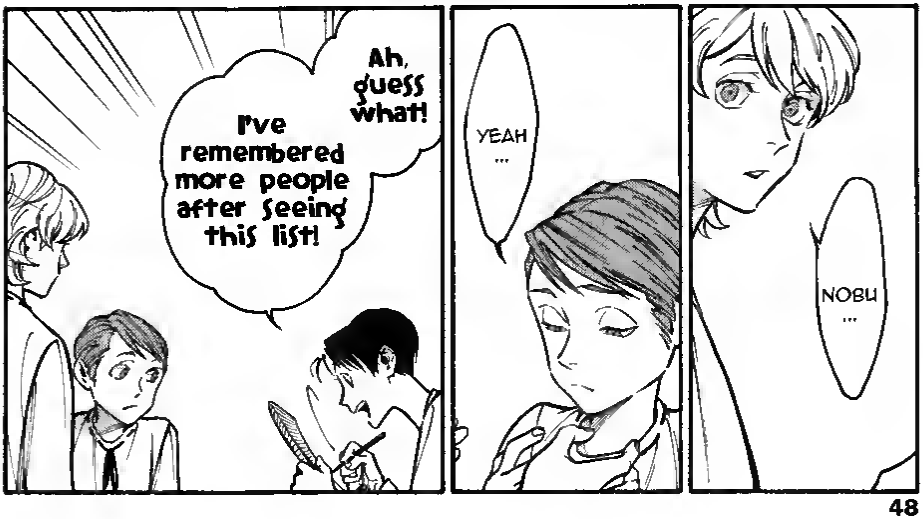
WE DON'T KNOW FOR SURE...
BUT YOU SEE..
BUT ...
THAT'S ALSO WHAT I WANT TO BELIEVE!
SISTER WOULDN'T LET THEM GO TO SUCH A PLACE!


WE DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE OUTSIDE WORLD...

YOU KNOW...
YOU MIGHT BE WRONG...

MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN COMMON.
IT MIGHT NOT BE LIKE WHAT WE BELIEVE
THE KIDS WHO DIDN'T GET A GOODBYE PARTY...

AND KEEP SEARCHING!
LET'S BELIEVE IN THAT...


Ah, guess what!
I've remembered more people after seeing this list!
YEAH ...
NOBU ...

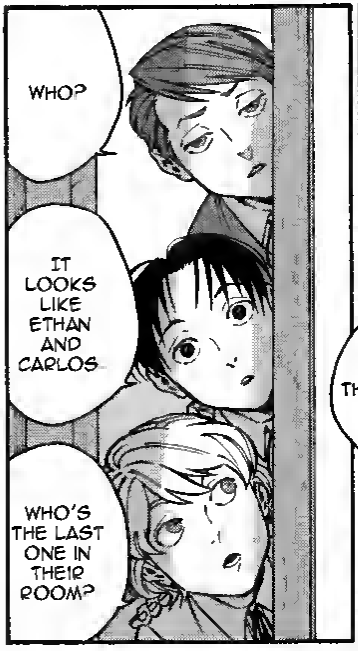
THAT RED HEAD..
THE ONE WHO SHARED THEIR ROOM...
UMM...
ADAM AND BRODY...
LUKE, NICHOLAS, AND JAKE...
CLAIRE, SOPHIE, AND NAOMI...
LOUIS, ALEX, AND...
NOLAN.
DANIEL!
THAT'S RIGHT!
YOU'RE AMAZING, NOBU!
SO RELIABLE.
YOU REALLY PAY ATTENTION TO OTHER PEOPLE..
THAT'S AN AMAZING SKILL.
YEAH...
YOU'RE REALLY AMAZING

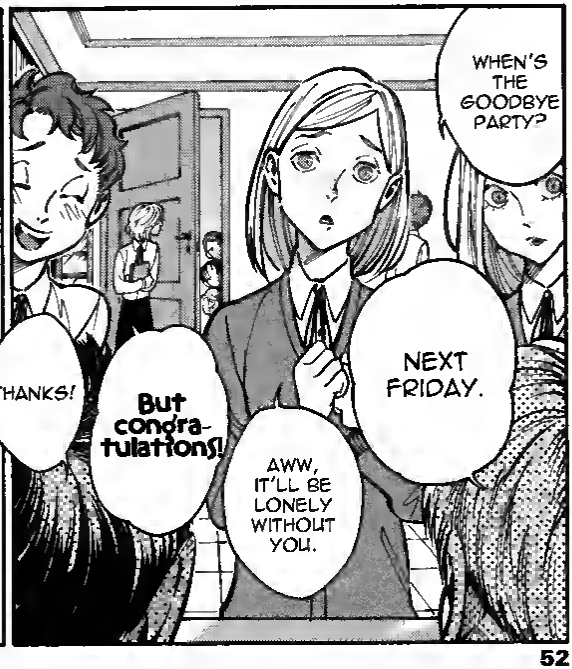
IS ...
IS THAT SO...?
THANKS ...
Alright! Let's go interrogate everyone tomorrow!
Cool! We're like detectives!
That's right! We're detectives!
We are the ones who will protect this town's order!
THE KIDS WHO DIDN'T HAVE A GOODBYE PARTY?
Shield

NO WAY! BASE-BALL'S BETTER!
LET'S PLAY SOCCER INSTEAD!
I DON'T REMEMBER EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO HAS SHARED A ROOM.
I WONDER?
WAS THERE ANYONE LIKE THAT?
YOU AREN'T THE ONE TO TALK, SAM.
DOES NO ONE REALLY REMEMBER?
YEAH.
IT'S HARDER TO GATHER INFORMA-TION THAN I THOUGHT.
HEY...
LOOK AT THAT...
.....
I NEVER HANG OUT WITH ANYONE BUT YOU TWO.
I CAN'T HELP IT.

You're going to "a new home"!!

I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT PERSON BEFORE..
COULD IT BE...

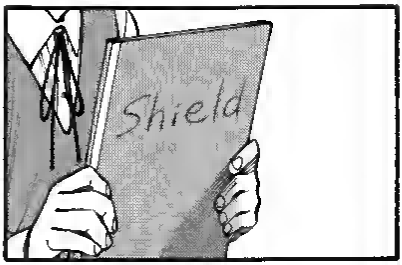

WHO?
IT LOOKS LIKE ETHAN AND CARLOS
WHO'S THE LAST ONE IN THEIR ROOM?

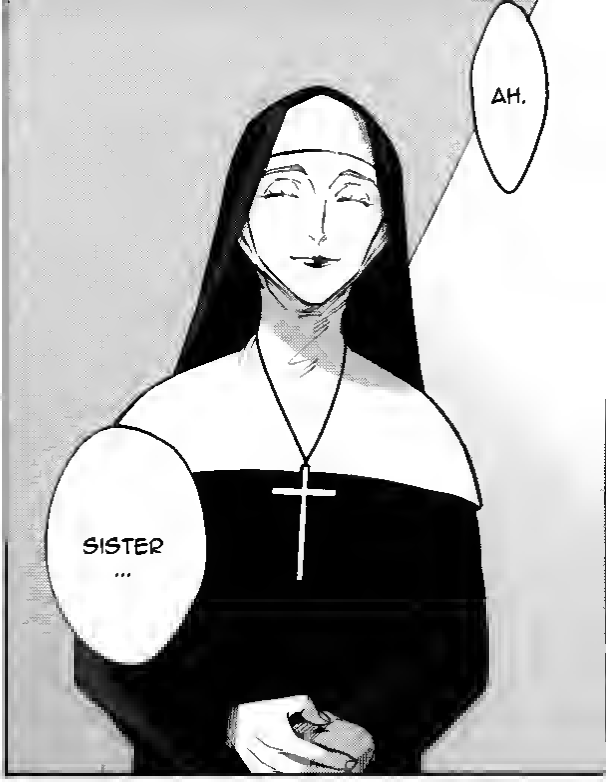

WHEN'S THE GOODBYE PARTY?
NEXT FRIDAY.
AWW, IT'LL BE LONELY WITHOUT YOU.
But congratulations!
THANKS!

COLLIN, IF I REMEMBER CORRECT...
HUH?
HE'S NOT HERE...
Eh?!
Has he already ...?!
LET'S LOOK SOMEWHERE ELSE.
THAT CAN'T BE.
HOW ABOUT THE LIBRARY?
JUST WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS COLLIN ANYWAY?
COLLIN IS..
AH.
THERE HE IS.
HE WAS IN SISTER'S ROOM.
HE MUST HAVE BEEN CALLED ABOUT HIS "NEW HOME"

HE DOESN'T LOOK VERY HAPPY...
IT MUST BE BECAUSE HE WON'T GET A GOODBYE PARTY!
Shield
NOBU MENTIONED IT BEFORE BUT...
NOBU MENTIONED IT BEFORE BUT...
MUST BE THAT THEY WERE QUIET AND DIDN'T STAND OUT.
.....

COLLIN IS THAT TYPE OF KID...
NO, IT ISN'T...
BUT THOSE TYPES OF KIDS DON'T SPEAK OUT ABOUT THEIR OPINIONS...
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, BUT...
IS IT THE REASON THEY DON'T GET A GOODBYE PARTY?
SQUISH
JUST WHAT KIND OF INVESTIGATI ON COULD THIS BE?
THAT'S TRUE... BUT...
WE'RE INVESTIGATING TO PROVE THAT THIS IS ALL JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING, REMEMBER!
Ahaha! Sam, your face!

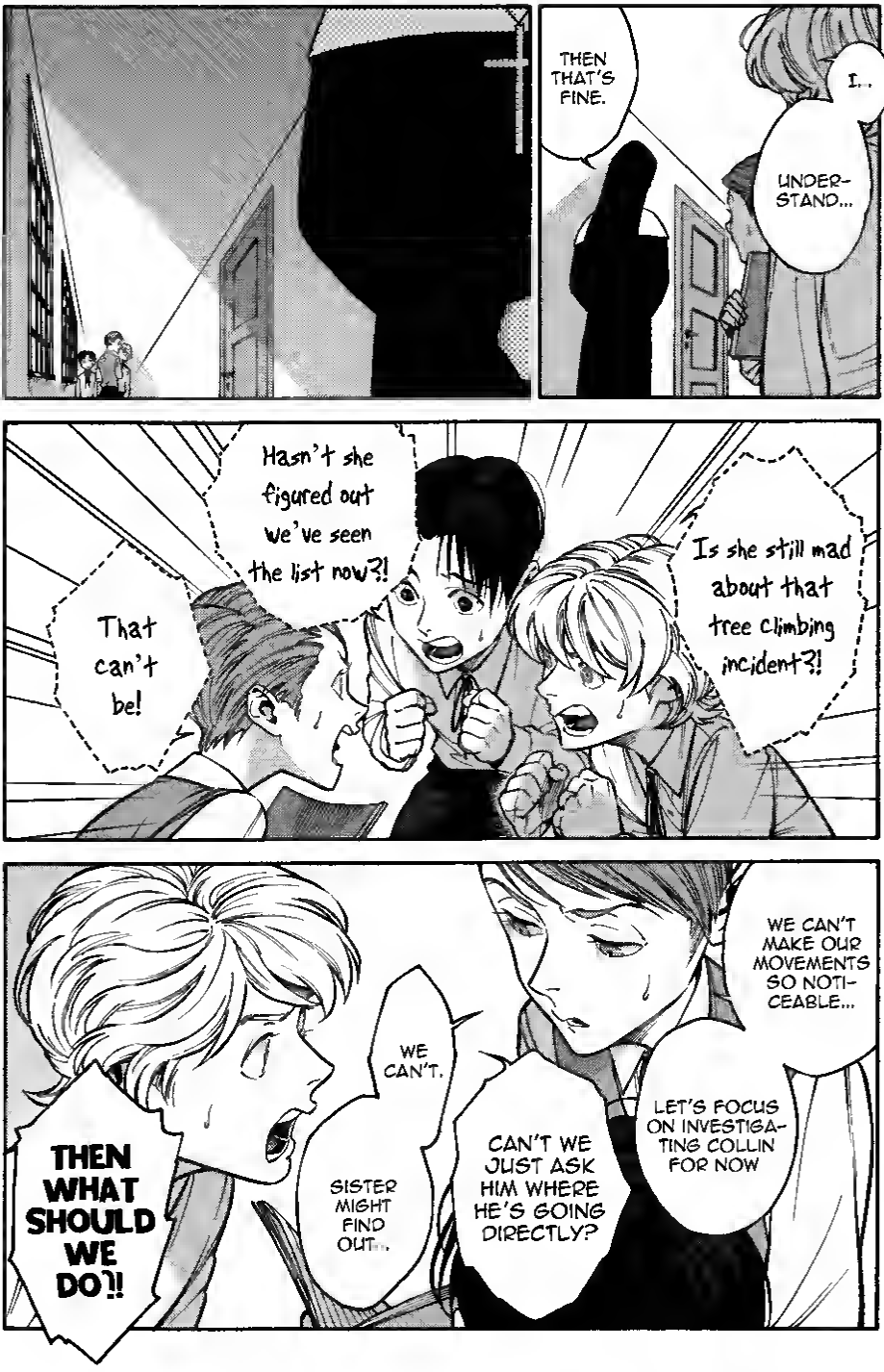

Shield


AH.
SISTER ...

PRETENDING TO BE POLICE?
HOW FUN.

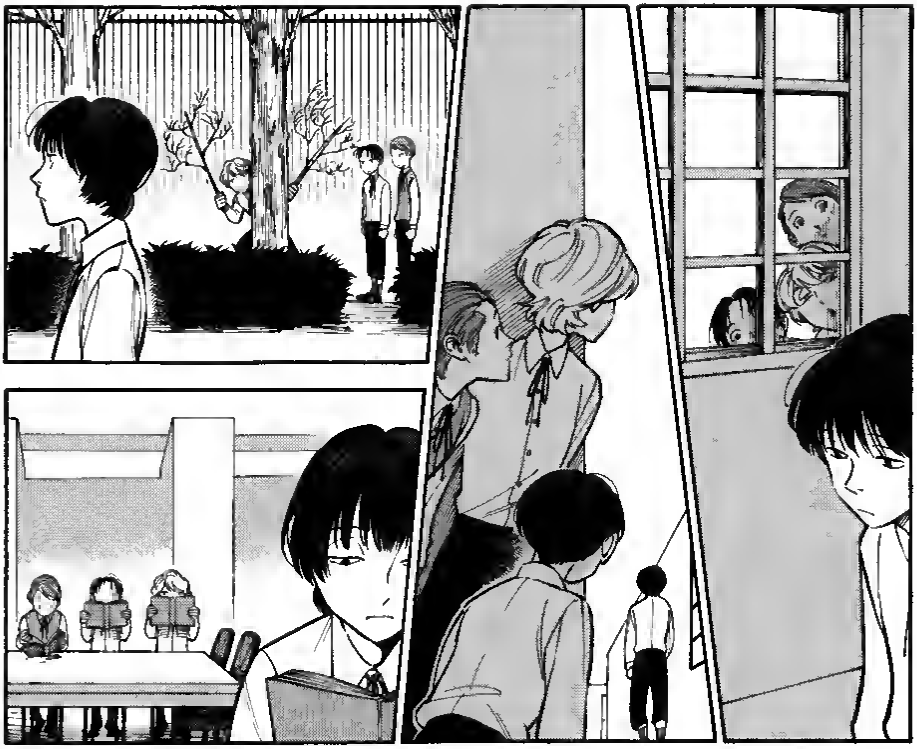
HOWEVER, DON'T GET INVOLVED IN ANYTHING DANGEROUS.

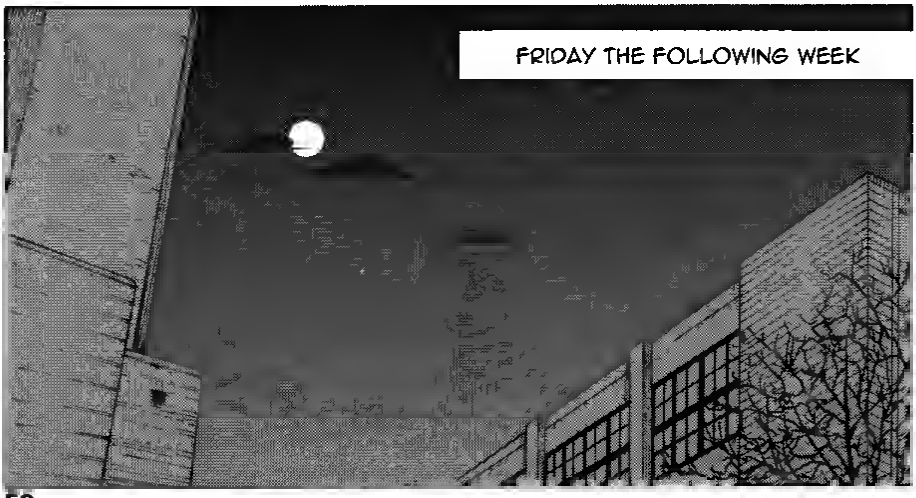
ESPECIALLY YOU, HAROLD.


THEN THAT'S FINE.
I..
UNDER-STAND...
Hasn't she figured out we've seen the list now?!
That can't be!
Is she still mad about that tree climbing incident?!
WE CAN'T MAKE OUR MOVEMENTS SO NOTI-CEABLE...
LET'S FOCUS ON INVESTIGA-TING COLLIN FOR NOW
CAN'T WE JUST ASK HIM WHERE HE'S GOING DIRECTLY?
WE CAN'T.
SISTER MIGHT FIND OUT...
THEN WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!

IF WE USE ARIA AS AN EXAMPLE...
THEN WE CAN ASSUME COLLIN WILL LEAVE EARLY IN THE MORNING.
IN THAT CASE, THE BEST THING TO DO...
Aria
Isabella
Mia
Nicholas

IS NEVER LET COLLIN OUT OF OUR SIGHT...
UNTIL NEXT FRIDAY!



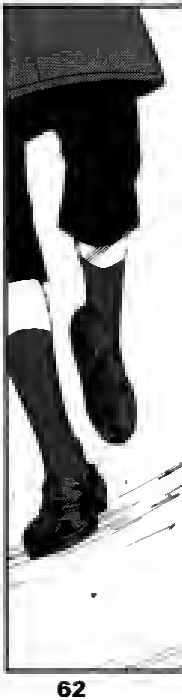

FRIDAY THE FOLLOWING WEEK

BE QUIET.
IT'D BE BAD IF WE'RE CAUGHT.
I.. GOT IT..
CLASP
Sniff
IT'S COLD..
LET'S STICK CLOSER TOGE-THER
OK.
Shiver
Sniff
Yeah
CO-LLIN..
IS HE REALLY GOING TO LEAVE?

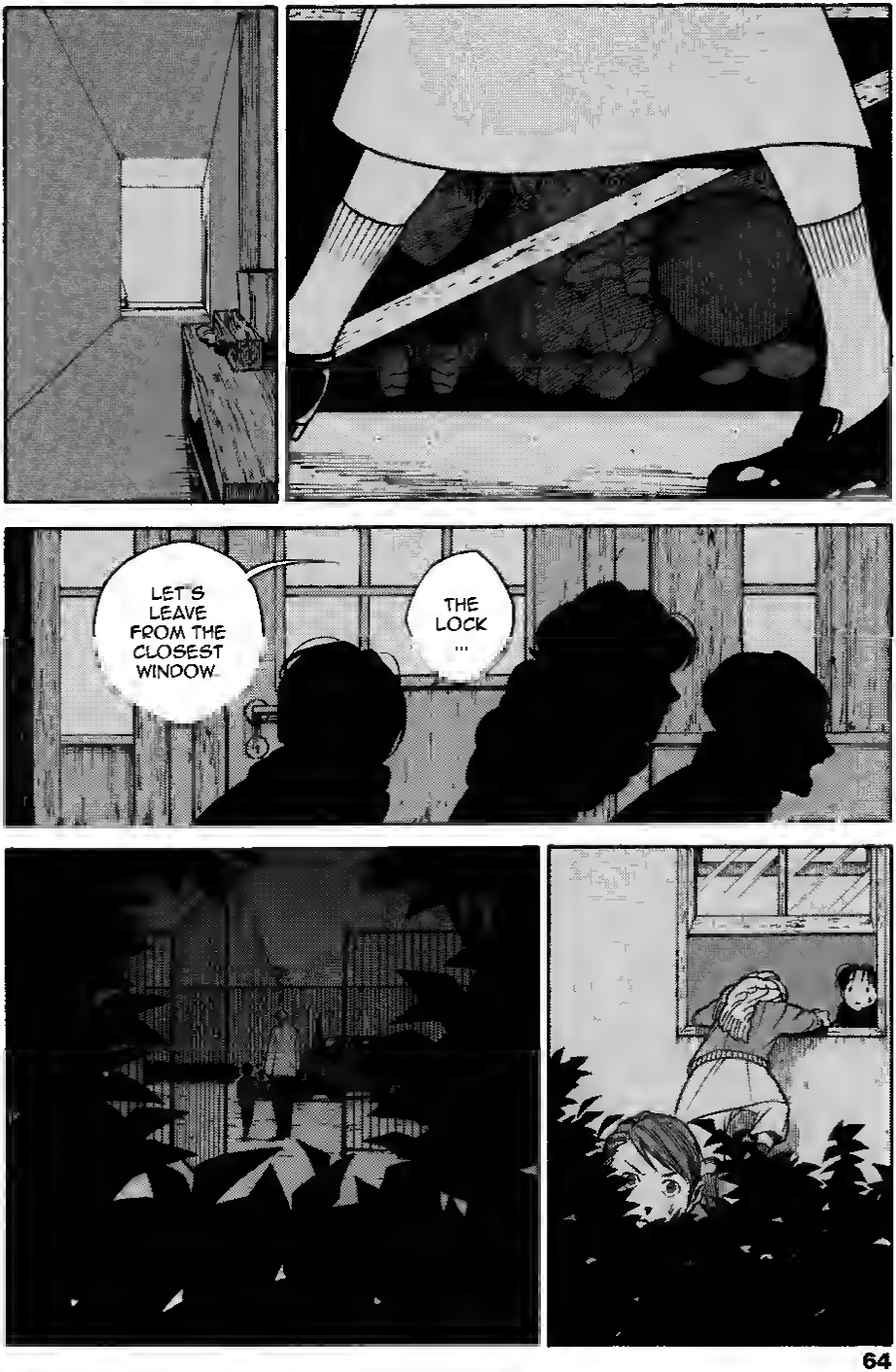
IT'S ALMOST 4 IN THE MORNING ...
WAAH ...
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER STAYED UP SO LATE.
IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE DOING SOMETHING BAD...
!
Creak
Jun
Jun
..ye...
Yeah ...
It's gotten a bit warmer.
.....

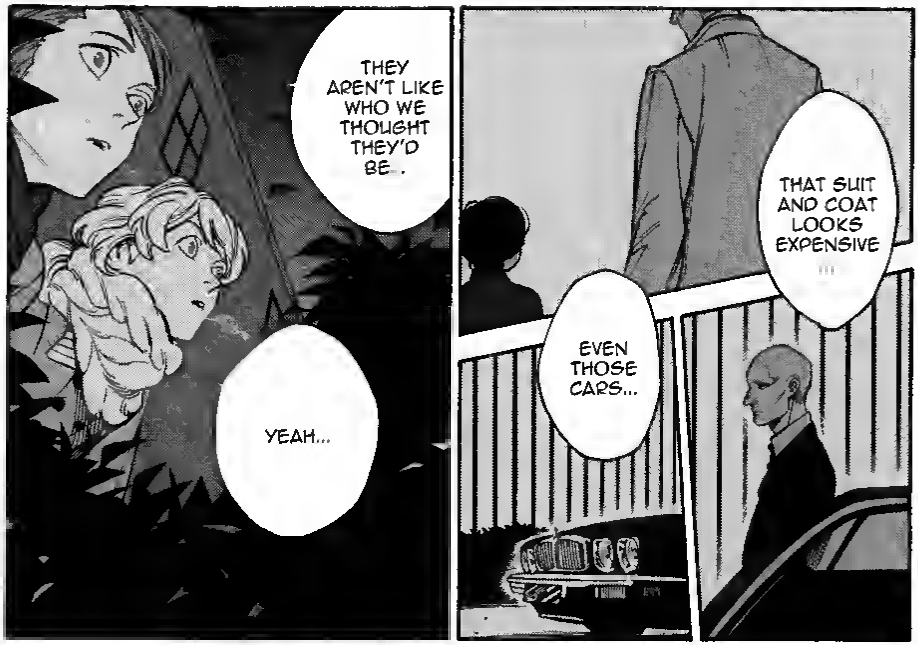
Collin came out.
He's wearing travel clothes.
Let's follow from behind.

HE'S USING THE BACK DOOR...
THERE'S SOMEONE WAITING ON THE OTHER SIDE.
HIS NEW FAMILY?

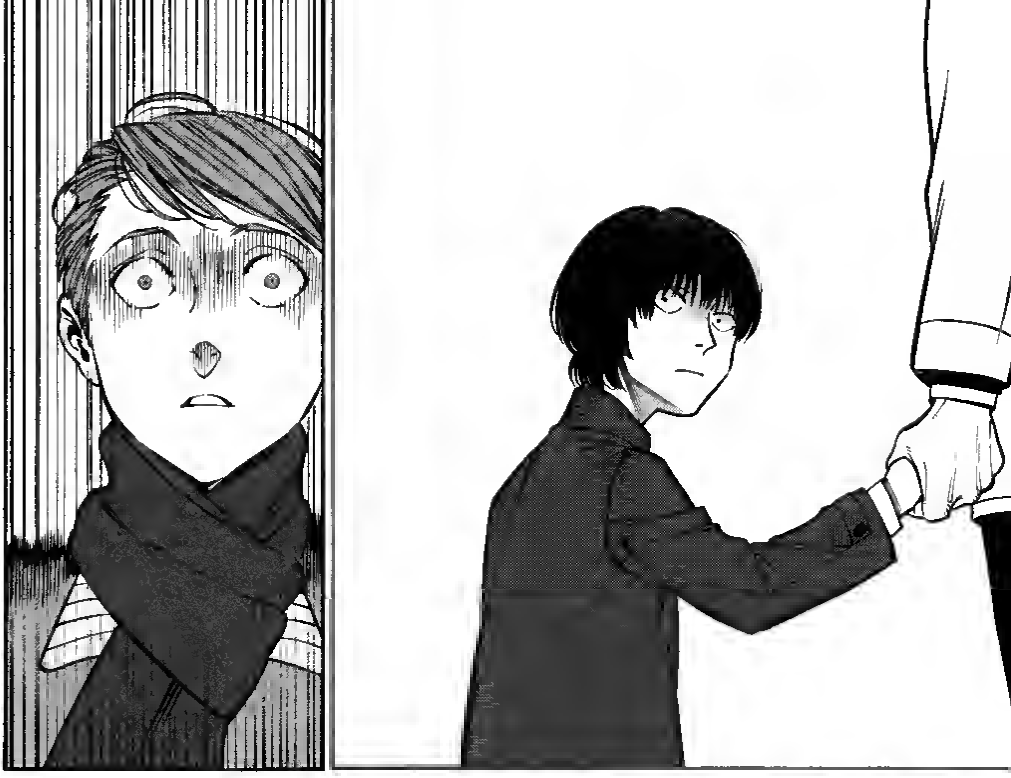


SISTER MARY?
WRONG
IT'S ...
WOW ...
.....
click
rattle
THIS IS BAD!
SISTER IS COMING BACK!
WE HAVE TO HIDE!

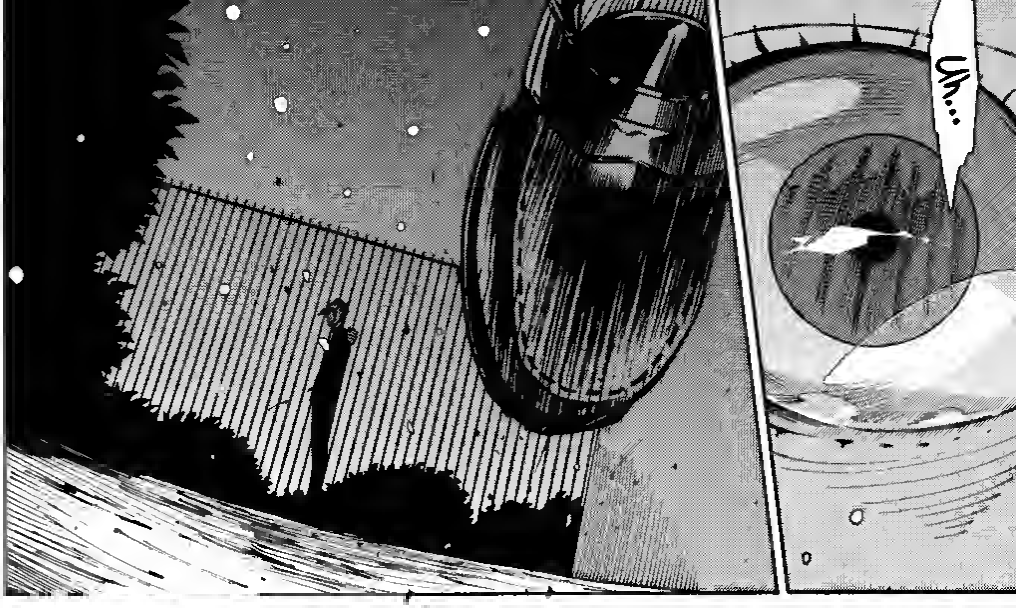

LET'S LEAVE FROM THE CLOSEST WINDOW.
THE LOCK ...

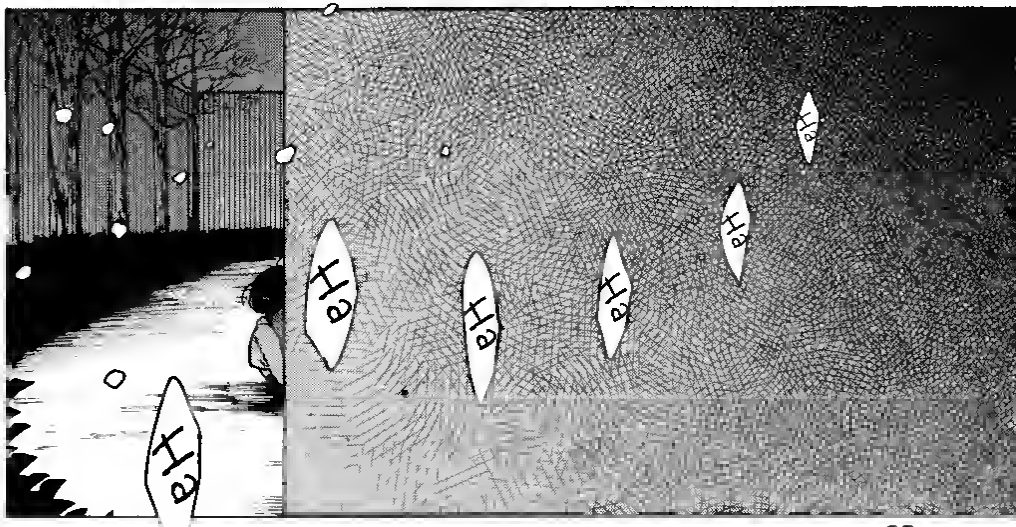

THEY AREN'T LIKE WHO WE THOUGHT THEY'D BE...
YEAH...
THAT SUIT AND COAT LOOKS EXPENSIVE...
EVEN THOSE CARS...

Be quiet!
Hey what are you!!
THUMP
GAH!
GSD
Nobu! Hurry up!
MY JACKET GOT CAUGHT...
SORRY...


Ah ...
Uh ...
WHAT'RE YOU KIDS DOIN' OVER THERE?

SHOULDN'T YOU BE IN THE MIDDLE OF DREAM LAND?


Uh...


He
He
He
He
He
He

This is no good...
It didn't seem like it...
at all...
Just now...
That was Collin's new family?
everything we saw just now...
We have to forget...
ABOUT COLLIN!
WE HAVE TO FORGET...

WE'LL STOP THE INVESTI-GATION...
WHAT WE SAW JUST NOW WAS A DREAM.
A DREAM.
A DREAM ...